

Message Text

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PAGE 01 PARIS 23761 171522Z
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W
-----067826 171523Z /44
O 171505Z AUG 77
FM AMEMBASSY PARIS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7187

C O N F I D E N T I A L PARIS 23761

EXDIS

E.O.11652: XODS-3
TAGS: MILI US VN
SUBJ: US/VN RELATIONS: NOTIFICATION OF STATUS REVIEWS
FOR MIA'S

REF: STATE 193004

1. IN THE ABSENCE OF DO THANH, SRV FIRST SECRETARY
TRAN THIEN CAN SAW EMBOFF ON AUGUST 17. EMBOFF GAVE
CAN INTERNATIONAL HERALD TRIBUNE STORY ON MIA STATUS
REVIEW AS ANNOUNCED BY DOD AUGUST 16. HE EXPLAINED
THE SITUATION BASED ON REFTEL AND MADE THE POINTS
NOTED IN PARA 5. CAN TOOK CAREFUL NOTES OF THESE LAST
POINTS AND SEEMED TO UNDERSTAND THE NEWSPAPER ARTICLE
AND THE EXPLANATION BASED ON PARAS 1 THROUGH
4. HE SAID HE WOULD SEND THE POINTS IN PARA 5 TO
VU HOANG IN HANOI.

2. CONTRARY TO USUAL PRACTICE OF DO THANH, CAN TOOK
OCCASION OF THIS ROUTINE SESSION TO REITERATE STALE
SRV POSITION ON RELATIONS WITH US. HE ASKED EMBOFF
TO CONVEY TO WASHINGTON THE FOLLOWING TWO POINTS.

-- THE SRV HAS BEEN RESPONSIVE CONCERNING MIA, AND
ARE PROCEEDING WITH THE REPATRIATION OF 22 REMAINS.
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THESE ARE ACTS OF GOOD WILL BY THE SRV AS THE US
STATEMENTS OF APPRECIATION HAVE NOTED.

-- DESPITE THE SRV ACTS, HIS GOVERNMENT IS STILL
WAITING FOR THE US TO DO THE SAME, THAT IS TO ADOPT AN
ATTITUDE OF GOOD WILL TOWARD THE SRV.

CAN WENT ON TO NOTE THAT THE FIRST POINT REFERRED TO PARA 8B OF THE PARIS AGREEMENT AND THE SECOND POINT REFERRED TO ARTICLE 21, THE TWO PROBLEMS LEFT OVER FROM THE PAST WHICH MUST BE SOLVED BEFORE ONE CAN ESTABLISH THE BASIS FOR GOOD FUTURE RELATIONS, WHICH IS THE COMMON DESIRE OF THE TWO COUNTRIES.

3. COMMENT: THE SRV AMBASSADOR IS APPARENTLY OUT OF THE COUNTRY AND IT SEEMS AS THOUGH THE RATHER TIMID TRAN HOAN, WHO IS NOW CHARGE, WISHED TO MAKE SURE THAT NOT EVEN THE MOST ROUTINE OF BUSINESS WAS HANDLED WITHOUT A REITERATION OF THE STANDARD SRV POSITION. WE PRESUME THAT AS THE TIME DRAWS CLOSE FOR THE SEPTEMBER FLIGHT FOR THE REPATRIATION OF REMAINS, THE SRV OFFICIAL PRONOUNCEMENTS WILL REMIND US OF THE UNCHANGING "PRINCIPLED" POSITION.
HARTMAN

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: MIA, FOREIGN RELATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 17-Aug-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 22 May 2009
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977PARIS23761
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: X3
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770296-1304
Format: TEL
From: PARIS
Handling Restrictions:
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770853/aaaabsli.tel
Line Count: 79
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 87216b59-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION SS
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Reference: 77 STATE 193004
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 03-Mar-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1576905
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: US/VN RELATIONS: NOTIFICATION OF STATUS REVIEWS FOR MIA'S
TAGS: MILI, US, VN
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/87216b59-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009